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Get On The Fun Wagon

By J. Ray Grissett

Joel Ray, Director of Missions for Lebanon Baptist Association, examines some of the material and supplies that he has purchased to use in the Fun Wagon that is being built by people in their association to be used this summer in extension ministries. He has secured a popcorn machine and a snowball machine as well as many other supplies that will become a part of the vehicle which will be used in the new ministry.

At least seven associations in Mississippi are in the process of constructing Fun Wagons or as they are sometimes called "Goodtime Wagons", to be used in a variety of ministries in the various associations. Plans were secured from the Home Mission Board and other State Convention Boards and shared with other Directors of Missions in our state last year.

These vehicles will be used in such ministries as: chapel on wheels, a mobile audio-visual teaching and worship center, mission vacation Bible school ministries, weekday Bible teaching, cultivating youth in communities unreached, evangelizing at a county fair, teaching migrants, working with ethnic groups, serving in resort areas and campgrounds, assisting in the development of missions without a building, reaching people in transitional communities, serving youth in mobile park ministries, and dozens of other ministries that might be needed in any given location.

The various vehicles, some known even as "Fun Barns", are equipped with basketball goals, volleyball

equipment, "frisbees", puppet theatres, popcorn, snowcones, films and filmstrip ministries, musical presentations of various types, games such as checkers, and other table games.

There seems to almost be no limit to the variety of applications made in the ministry through these vehicles. At this time the Cooperative Missions Department of the Convention Board is aware of the following associations being involved in the construction of the units. These associations are: De Soto, Jones, Rankin, Union County, Lebanon, and Lafayette.

If your association or church is interested in more information concerning this ministry, please feel free to contact the Cooperative Missions Department for more detailed information concerning this ministry.

V.I.M.

Mission Agencies Launch Joint Volunteer Program

JUN 17 1977

ATLANTA (BP) — A "cooperative plan of people" program designed to use volunteers in "a more creative and effective way" has been launched by four Southern Baptist agencies, it was announced here.

The program, a cooperative venture of Southern Baptists' Foreign Mission Board (FMB), Home Mission Board (HMB), Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) and Brotherhood Commission, is called Volunteer Involvement in Missions. The system was planned by representatives of the four agencies, which will use it jointly.

Generally, the project is for laypersons who wish to contribute their time, gifts and funds to short or long term missions projects at home or abroad. It is not intended for persons who feel called to full-time service, according to Roy Edgemon, coordinator, and HMB director of volunteer project correlation. Key planners for the project included Evelyn Blount of WMU, Norman Godfrey of the Brotherhood Commission and James Cecil, FMB.

Volunteer Involvement in Missions features an automated data system at the HMB offices in Atlanta. Persons desiring to participate will be listed on

the system, along with information about skills, gifts, interests, concerns, availability and duration of service, Edgemon said.

The information will be drawn on by the four agencies for special projects, he noted.

Prior to creation of the new system, Edgemon continued, each agency tended to recruit, promote and assign its own volunteers. As a result, he said, there was very little coordinated use of one of the greatest resources of Southern Baptists — its laypersons.

"This started out as a Bold Mission Thrust effort to use volunteers in a more effective and creative way," Edgemon said. "But we realized if we correlated our efforts among the agencies, we could do so much more (in the use of volunteers). (Bold Mission Thrust is Southern Baptists' effort to evangelize and congregationalize the United States by 1980.)

"When we realized what we could accomplish together, we started working to pull together the four agencies," he added.

"We also realize that if we put our collective talents together, we could involve more people, give them more

places to go and create more opportunities for laypersons to serve in missions."

Edgemon said he expects the system to be "on stream" by the first of the year. Those who have been planning the system also expect it to contain some 100,000 volunteers.

The system, he said "actually is an effort to identify the resources we have" and to put them into a workable system, where volunteers can be made available immediately.

"This is a cooperative plan of people," he said, adding that when the (Continued on page 2)

Tell State Brotherhood About Your Church Summer Ministries

Many churches throughout Mississippi conduct mission activities during each summer in different areas of the United States. These mission activities include Vacation Bible Schools, Backyard Bible Studies, surveys, teacher training classes, and renovation work on church property.

Is your church one of the churches involved in this type mission ministry? If it is, the state Brotherhood Department would like to know about your plans. We feel that Miss. Baptists should become more aware of the ministries being supported by churches throughout the state. Interest created by learning what one church can do often stimulates others into beginning their own mission ministries.

If you'll send the following information to the Brotherhood Department, P. O. Box 530, Jackson MS 39205, we'll help publicize what your church is doing. By listing such info as a basis for your initial contact with us, we will in turn get in touch with your church about more detailed info.

List the assoc., church, pastor, person coordinating the activity, street address, phone, city, zip, type of mission activity, date activity will take place, where the activity will take place, number of people involved, signature of person sending in the form, telephone, and the date it was sent in.

Let us hear from you. Other churches throughout the state need to know what is happening in your church and how it is sharing the gospel of Christ through mission ministries.

Ethnics Are The Answer In Cities, Romo Declares

By Everett Hallum

LOS ANGELES (BP) — "If the cities are to be won for Christ," said Oscar Romo, director of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's language mission department, "Ethnics must do it." Ethnic people comprise a heavy percentage of most inner-city neighborhoods.

"Flexibility and creativity will be the key," Romo told catalytic mis-

sionaries and state mission directors here. "We can give guidelines, but only local people can give adequate direction to it."

"Ours is not the only way, but it is one way we think we can help local churches and local people get hold of the vast unchurched metropolitan areas."

Calling for a closer partnership between the Home Mission Board and local churches, Romo outlined a "church-centered approach" with four emphases:

— "Laser Penetration." Taking its name from the process that gathers diverse light beams into a single powerful stream, the laser gathers language missions experts for a concentrated, short-term analysis of a metro area's language needs and opportunities.

— "Catalytic Action." Recognizing Home Board and local church limitations in funds and personnel, a "Catalytic" effort, using a single missions workers to reach several ethnic groups, will become more common in the future.

Such a "catalytic missionary" may begin new work wherever needs exist but the object will be to discover local, indigenous leaders and develop them before the missionary moves on to

other projects.

— "Cross-cultural Approach." Churches, especially those in changing neighborhoods, must learn to cross cultural barriers to begin missions work with other groups.

Anglo churches must offer opportunities for ethnics to form subcongregational units, for example. And, Romo added, more and more ethnic churches must learn to minister to different cultures. He cited two ethnic Los Angeles churches now beginning programs for persons of another ethnic group moving into their area.

"Such outreach may use existing Southern Baptist programs and facilities," Romo said. "But cultural adaptations may be necessary for outreach to be most effective."

— "Kaleidoscopic Missions." As metropolitan area neighborhoods become more and more "multi-ethnic," existing facilities must be shared, Romo said. Pointing to the four independent language congregations meeting at Nineteenth Avenue Baptist Church in San Francisco, Romo said this approach may become the model for the future, as metro building and site costs soar.

"It is especially important to propagate this concept in communities where ethnic composition is changing, or where a neighborhood has a mosaic of ethnic peoples," Romo said.

"Laser penetration" teams worked for four days in the Los Angeles area in preparation for the conference, assembling 24 missionaries from as far away as Hawaii and Puerto Rico.

With 18 language groups represented by the laser effort, however, several opportunities for new work were initiated.

Bible studies for Greeks, Laotians and Arabs were proposed after local people expressed interest.

An evangelical Arabic group, needing facilities in which to meet, was discovered and paired with a local Southern Baptist church with facilities to share; a group of Russian immigrants of Baptist background were located and given information concerning Southern Baptist aid.

Survey Training Workshop

June 20-21 brings the conference which will enable participants to conduct surveys of the unchurched in their communities. Clay Price of the Home Mission Board will lead the conference which will include everything needed in survey work from cost to canvassing to cultivating. Cooperative Missions Department is sponsoring.

Lottie Moon Offering Closes at \$28,763,810

RICHMOND (BP) — The 1976 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering reached \$28,763,810 as final tabulation of the annual offering for Southern Baptist foreign missions was made May 31.

Although short of the \$29 million goal by \$26,190, the 1976 offering was an increase of \$2,594,389 over the \$26,169,421 given in the 1975 offering.

The 1976 figure includes one more month of contributions than the 1975 offering. The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, upon consultation with the Woman's Missionary Union (WMU), decided to keep the books open on the offering through May beginning this year, instead of closing them at the end of April as in former years. During May, \$449,293 was received.

The change allows the May receipts to be counted and have figures available for sharing at the annual meetings of the WMU and the Southern Baptist Convention. The meetings are now held in June, instead of May as in earlier years.

SBC Expected To Oppose Integrated Auxiliary Rule

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Opponents of the widely debated "integrated auxiliary of a church" ruling of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) are expected to present a resolution protesting it at the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) annual meeting here, June 14-16.

Numerous religious groups and individuals, including Southern Baptists, have protested that IRS is not qualified to determine the nature and mission of a church, which, they say, the "integrated auxiliary" ruling has the effect of doing.

The IRS, in the January 4 Federal Register, published its official ruling defining an "integrated auxiliary of a church" and ruling that ministries of a church not falling under that definition must file the annual IRS information Form 990.

In doing so, the IRS claims that it is merely carrying out the mandate imposed by Congress in the Tax Reform Act of 1969.

In that act, Congress used the term "integrated auxiliary of a church" for the first time in legislative history. Neither the churches nor legislation had previously used this expression to describe church-related agencies.

IRS says that since this is a new term in tax law, it must be defined. The churches, on the other hand, say that in attempting such a definition the government is invading the exclusive domain reserved under the U. S. Constitution for religion itself.

An organization's principal activity must be "exclusively religious," IRS says, if it is to be considered an "integrated auxiliary of a church" and therefore exempt from filing Form 990, which requires such information as annual income, salaries and expenditures.

If the principal activity of a church organization is educational, literary, charitable, or of another nature (other than

religious), the organization will not be considered "exclusively religious," IRS says.

Religious organizations currently not classified by IRS as "exclusively religious" — and therefore not "integrated auxiliaries" — are hospitals, colleges, homes for the aging, and children's homes. Under present regulations, they must file Form 990.

However, seminaries and church-related educational organizations below college level do not have to file the form.

Also, some organizations not considered "integrated auxiliaries" will not have to file Form 990, if their gross annual income falls under \$10,000. The previous limit was \$5,000, but recently the figure was raised to \$10,000 effective "on years ending on and after Dec. 31, 1976," an IRS spokesman said.

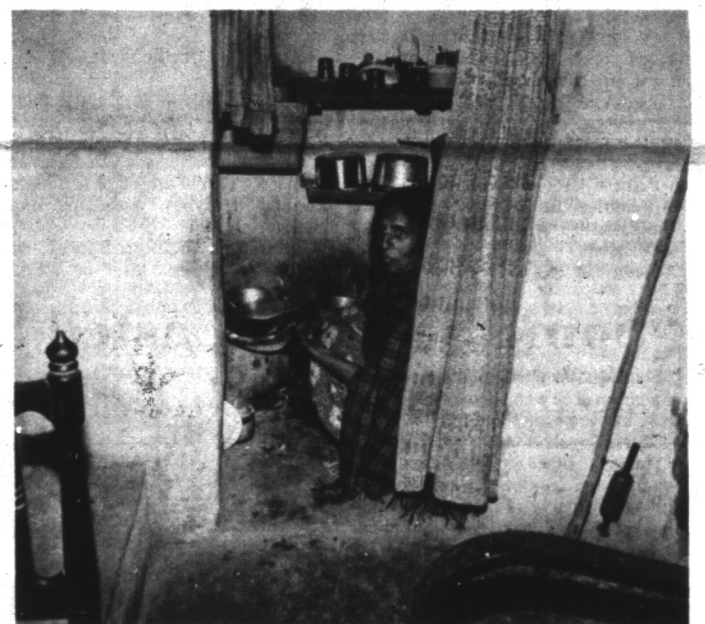
IRS has confirmed that filing of Form 990 has no effect on the filing organization's tax exempt status or the tax deductible nature of gifts to it.

Those organizations which must file it will not lose their exemption from federal income tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code "simply due to their failure to meet the definition of an integrated auxiliary of a church," an IRS spokesman told Baptist Press, the SBC news service.

The IRS spokesman said that the fact an organization is tax exempt under 501 (c) (3) means that contributions to it are tax deductible under section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code.

In a letter to Porter Routh, executive secretary - treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee, IRS confirmed that Southern Baptist churches and SBC institutions, which

(Continued on page 2)



Indian Baptist Kitchen

This is a kitchen in a house church in Old Delhi. Three families live there; the families of a grandfather, a father and his son, all are Baptist ministers. Story and more photos on page 2.

Bible Belongs To The People

GREENVILLE, S. C. (BP) — A current "rage to translate" the Bible stems from a conviction that its words and message "must be received by all in a language they understand," the chief translator of the "Good News Bible" in Today's English Version, said here.

Robert G. Bratcher, a Southern Baptist, told a Furman University (a Baptist school) audience that no language is sacred, but rather, "All are proper vehicles for telling of man's experiences with God."

Speaking at a two-day Bible emphasis called a "Festival of the Word," Bratcher said the Bible or a portion of it is available in 1603 languages, or to 96 percent of the people in the world.

Yet, he said, the Bible is the "greatest unread — and misread — best seller in the world."

Bratcher, son of Baptist missionaries to Brazil, said translators "must make choices" since no original manuscripts of the scriptures are available. He pointed out that sometimes equally reliable texts differ at points. And the translator has the additional task of deciding not simply what was said, but what was meant.

With all the difficulties, however, Bratcher said the translator must make the Bible understandable to someone reading it for the first time and "make it sound as though it was written in that language."

He noted Reformation leader Martin Luther's aim of "making Moses so German no one would suspect he is a Jew" when he translated the scriptures.

Bratcher said the Bible once was the property of priests and scholars, but now it has been "put in the hands of the people."

Emphasizing the importance of understanding, he recalled when the prophet Ezra read the scriptures to the people and gave an oral interpretation as he read the Hebrew.

"The people rejoiced because they understood the meaning of words which heretofore were locked up to them," Bratcher said.

He pointed out some differences between the Good News Bible and more familiar versions.

In the King James Version, he noted, the 100th Psalm begins, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want."

In the Good News Bible that portion is translated, "The Lord is my shepherd, I have everything I need."

"Good News for Modern Man," the New Testament in Today's English Version, was published in 1966 and the entire "Good News Bible" published in December 1976. One million copies of the new translation were circulated in December alone, and ABS officials say they expect distribution to reach a record 10 million copies by yearend 1977.

Swor's Birthday

Chester Swor of Jackson will be 70 years young July 8. For 40 years, he has traveled throughout the Southern Baptist Convention states preaching, lecturing, counseling, and just being a friend to Baptist youth and adults. Still other thousands have been significantly influenced by his books (now 41 printings) and other writings.

First Baptist Church of Jackson, of which he is a member and deacon, will be observing Chester Swor Day on Sunday, July 10. The evening worship hour will be devoted to a special tribute to Swor and will be followed by a giant birthday party in the church's Fellowship Hall.

The Baptists of Mississippi are proud of this outstanding native son. On this important milestone in Swor's life, Baptists of Mississippi and across the convention are being requested to write letters of appreciation and well wishes. The letters and cards are to be addressed to Chester Swor, First Baptist Church, P. O. Box 1158, Jackson, Mississippi 39205.



Seniors Snack At Fellowship

Senior Adults from 54 Mississippi Baptist churches participated in one of five Senior Adult Fellowships during the week of May 23-27. These fellowships were sponsored by the Senior Adult Ministry program of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. The photo shows lunch time at the Hattiesburg fellowship.

Total attendance for the five fellowships was 474 with the largest being held on Friday at Temple Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, where 19 churches were reported present. Other locations were Greenville, Oxford, Columbus, and Jackson.

Program personnel included Louis Scholle of Blue Mountain College; Clyde K. Bizzell of First Baptist Church, Pensacola, Florida; Bob Sessions of the Church Recreation Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board; and Kermit S. King of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board staff.

Entertainment features included magicians Calvin Green of Clinton, and Athens McNeill of Moss Point, and also the Morrison Heights (Clinton) Ladies Washboard Band. (Photo by Joe M. Clearman)

Integrated Auxiliary Rule

(Continued from page 1)
meet the definition of an "integrated auxiliary of a church," do not have to file the form.

Routh said SBC entities not required to file the form include the Executive Committee, the SBC's national boards and commissions, and the churches. He said state Baptist conventions and their agencies (which fall under the "integrated auxiliary" ruling) and associations of churches also are not required to file Form 990 under current regulations.

In the Southern Baptist context, all the organizations not qualifying as "integrated auxiliaries" operate at either the state or local church levels. Most operate on the state level. The SBC does not run hospitals, colleges, homes for the aging and child care institutions on a national level.

And in a related matter, the Association of Southern Baptist State Executive Secretaries has joined a growing list of individuals and groups opposing the ruling.

The chief executives of state conventions within the framework of the nation's largest Protestant denomination, declared: "We are prepared to voice that opposition as necessary to the White House, Congress, and in the courts."

Joe Ingram of Oklahoma City, who circulated a mail ballot on the subject to fellow Baptist executives, released the results. Ingram, chief executive for Oklahoma Baptists, and secretary of the association, has urged fellow executives to send copies of the resolution to their U. S. Senators and Representatives. He has sent a copy to the Oklahoma congressional delegation and to President Jimmy Carter.

Earl Kelly, executive secretary for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, sent copies of the resolution to Mississippi congressmen: James O. Eastland, John C. Stennis, Jamie L. Whitten, David R. Bowen, G. V. Montgomery, Thad Cochran, and Trent Lott.

The resolution declared that the IRS rule limits free exercise of religion as stipulated in the First Amendment of the U. S. Constitution.

A spokesman for the Oklahoma Baptists said an attorney for the state convention has issued a legal memorandum stating that, as applied to the Oklahoma convention, the IRS ruling means that any agency or institution — such as a children's home or hospital — which is a part of the convention itself and does not maintain a separate legal identity will not be required to file Form 990.

"The Lord Has Been In It"

EDITOR'S NOTE: "The Lord Has Been In It" is third in a series of historical sketches depicting the first 20 years of Midwestern Seminary. H. I. Hester has been a part of Midwestern's history since the young seminary was little more than a notion in Southern Baptist minds. The following is a personal impression gleaned from an afternoon with H. I. Hester.

The 82 year old gentleman took a seat in the John F. Kennedy Rocker. It was made from sturdy North Carolina oak ... just like "Little Doc" himself.

Hubert Inman Hester came to Liberty, Mo., in 1926, to become head of the religion dept. at William Jewell College. Neither he nor his wife, Caroline, had visited the state before. Born in North Carolina, he studied at Wake Forest College and Southern Seminary. He taught at Furman.

It wasn't easy at age 81, to pull up roots and move West. But Dr. and Mrs. Hester embraced their new home optimistically, decided to "Play like we're gonna stay." For over 60 years now, their home has graced the liberty hillside. H. I. Hester seemed destined to play a vital role in Southern Baptist life. He would study, teach and administer in our schools, would serve on our commissions, would become president of two of our seminary boards of trustees. He would author texts that would endure over 30 printings, write histories of our colleges and institutions.

In 1975, when Midwestern was founded, Hester was elected president of its trustees. One of his first delights came when Millard Berquist was selected as the seminary's first president. Berquist had not only been a student of his at William Jewell College, he'd been Hester's student assistant!

Affirming the early years of Southern Baptists' youngest seminary, Hester loves to describe the "wonderful fellowship" existing between students, faculty and administrators.

"The Lord has been in it," There is no doubt in his voice, "So many things have happened that can only be explained on that basis."

After serving the first four years as trustee chairman, Hester was asked to join Midwestern's staff as vice-president to assist Berquist. For four years, until 1965 when he turned 70 and had to retire, he served in that position.

He reflects on the passage of time. "Look back on 20 years and they pass so quickly; yet here is a great new seminary going well and having tremendous influence ... and it's on its way."

The walls of his California stucco home, smile gently down on the aging ball of energy. Gifts from missionaries, pictures of friends and colleagues, thousands of books (many of them his) line his study.

He points out his "sweetheart photograph" of Mrs. Hester taken many years ago. After spending nearly two years in a nursing home and terribly ill, she died last September. They had "55 wonderful years together."

"It thrills me to hear him pray" a co-worker said of Hester. "You're right there with him ... a part of it."

Perhaps it is because H. I. Hester's life is a prayer, a prayer of humility, graciousness, a prayer of gratitude. Perhaps it is because H. I. Hester's life is a prayer to all who come to know him, that indeed, "The Lord has been in it."

Mission Agencies Launch

(Continued from page 1)
system is operational "we will be able to have on hand volunteers so that we can take advantage of the opportunities placed before us."

"We want to be able to respond immediately ... when the Holy Spirit opens a door for us. If we know who we have available, we will be able to respond immediately," Edgemon said.

An instance is disaster relief. If Southern Baptists have a resource bank, people can be notified and sent to places of need with little delay, he cited.

Edgemon said, however, many mission opportunities will be offered to those who volunteer, including construction, teaching, agriculture, medicine, music, recreation, social work, evangelistic projects, renewal, disaster relief, hygiene, homemaking, and other mission and evangelistic opportunities.

"Volunteer Involvement in Missions is God's people working together, to be more effective and creative in our cooperative witness and ministry to the world. Each person who participates — helper and helped — is important," Edgemon said.

He said persons who want to be part of Volunteer Involvement in Missions could write to "Volunteer Involvement in Missions," 1350 Spring Street, NW, Atlanta, Ga. 30309.

A detailed form — listing interests, skills, gifts, concerns and availability — will be sent to potential volunteers, he said. When the volunteer completes the form, planners ask that it be returned with a \$2 contribution — to make the system as self-supporting as possible, Edgemon said.

"This is really a cooperative plan of people, just like the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program (unified budget) is a system of finance. It's a method of using volunteers to spread the kingdom of God," Edgemon added.



H. I. Hester, at home in his oak rocking chair.

Robison Homosexual Views Runs Afoul of FCC Rules

By Orville Scott

DALLAS (BP) — The Sunday morning program of Evangelist James Robison was cancelled temporarily by a local television station following Robison's verbal attack of homosexuals and "Playboy" publisher Hugh Hefner.

Robison, a Southern Baptist, was reinstated a week later on WFAA.

Channel 8, after pledging to "refrain from personal attack on anybody by name."

As a result of Robison's sermon attack against homosexuals in February, WFAA was compelled by FCC regulations to grant equal time for a rebuttal by the pastor of a homosexual congregation in Fort Worth.

Following the brief cancellation, Mike Shapiro, president of Belo

Broadcasting Corporation, said the station's switchboard was swamped with telephone calls and "letters are coming in by the bucketsful."

Shapiro was quick to say the calls and letters had nothing to do with the station's decision to reinstate Robison.

"Our decision to resume the broadcasts came after Robison agreed to refrain from personal attacks on the air," Shapiro said.

"We think Robison is great and hope he has a long run with us."

Shapiro lamented that many of the people who called or wrote to protest the cancellation felt the station was to blame.

"The FCC language is very specific that you can't attack personally anyone on the air," Shapiro said. "If you do, you must notify an individual in advance."

A representative of Robison's evangelistic organization said the broadcasts had been under "increasing pressure" from other stations and some had dropped the broadcast last year because he dealt with controversial issues.

The evangelist, whose Sunday morning broadcast is carried on 70 TV stations, said he wasn't upset with WFAA but with the FCC rules.

"WFAA isn't trying to be a problem to me, but is seeking to fulfill the law which is what I want to do," Robison said.

"There seem to be inconsistencies in that particular law because in some talk shows people are attacked constantly by entertainers."

"Anita Bryant has been made fun of on several late night shows because of her stand against homosexuality."

In his televised sermon on homosexuality, Robison read a newspaper story in which the pastor of the homosexual church said God had made him what he was.

Robison refuted the man's claim and said God would forgive homosexuality or any other sin if the homosexual is willing to repent.

The Agape Metropolitan Community Church filed for equal time under the FCC Fairness Doctrine. During their broadcast, two lesbians sang, "Because He Lives," and the pastor said Jesus cured the blind man in John, Chapter 9, but left him homosexual because it would glorify God. He also used Galatians 3:28, "... There is neither male nor female ... to support the homosexual view."

WFAA, which produces Robison's program, refused to carry his comments about the "Playboy" publisher in a taping session in May and notified him his program was being cancelled.

A Robison spokesman said the evangelist quoted Hefner as saying rather than making another \$100 million, he'd like to fall in love, find the right person and settle down.

"Hefner is a hypocrite," said Robison, "because while he's trying to destroy so many families and tear down the image of women, he turns around and says he's looking for what he will be unable to find in his current lifestyle."

"Some Services Lasted Seven Hours"

Four Mississippi Baptists were part of a group of 19 who visited India early this year to preach and teach in WIN (Witness Involvement Now) Schools.

The four: three pastors and a pharmacist went under the auspices of Universal Concern Foundation, a Mississippi-based non-denominational organization working primarily through resources of Southern Baptist individuals to develop Christian work in India. Currently missionaries, as such are not allowed in India. However, the SBC has a Baptist hospital in Bangalore.

Hugh Martin, pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, and Howard Taylor, pastor of Calvary church, both in Greenville, worked in Calcutta. And John Hilbun, pastor of Jackson's McDowell Rd. Church, and Leo Moore, Jackson pharmacist, worked in Chandigar and Delhi.

They preached in tent meetings in rural areas, witnessed in Christian schools, taught WIN Schools to Indian pastors, and spent time talking with Indian Christian leaders.

"We were a bit discouraged that we didn't get to preach as much as we thought we would," said Hugh Martin, "but they told us our coming and preaching meant a great deal to them."

Said John Hilbun, "Sundays we spoke in various churches, in home churches, and in street meetings. We were never sure of the actual number of conversions, but the enthusiasm of the people was great."

The men reported that even some Baptist pastors made professions of faith during their service. In India, proselytizing is forbidden, therefore, invitations are discouraged. In one tent revival, according to Leo Moore, they played music for nearly two hours, while people drifted in off the streets. When the tent was full, Moore and the others started the service. "They had just come in to see what the noise was about," said Moore. They stayed.

Moore gave his testimony, gave information on how we got the Bible, and gave a salvation message when he spoke. Many of the rural services lasted as long as seven hours — the people wanted everybody to preach.

After seeing the squalor in India and glimpsing the problems of communicating the gospel to a hungry people, Howard Taylor said, "It laid on my heart that I was an ungrateful Christian and an ungrateful American."



This is a scene of Old Delhi which has 650,000 people living in one mile square, considered to be the most densely populated area of the world.

Photos By
Leo Moore

This is the father of Moore's cab driver in India. The driver, a Christian, asked Moore if he would go 30 miles into the country to visit his father who was also a Christian. When they arrived, the old man was in a garden reading his Bible.



A scene of a house church in Old Delhi.

Newsbriefs In The



World Of Religion

Columbus, Ga. (BP) — Sally Carter, who will become the first woman chaplain of Sweetbriar College in Virginia on Sept. 1, was ordained to the ministry by her home church, Waldrop Memorial Baptist Church, here.

New York (RNS) — In a report issued here by the American Jewish Committee, a journalist specializing in foreign affairs warns that if the Arabs insist on restoring the pre-1967 partition of Jerusalem, "the Middle East Faces an Armageddon and a world-shaking bloodbath."

Jerusalem (RNS) — Legal prohibition of all Christian "missionary" activity in Israel was among a series of demands made by the ultra-Orthodox Agudat Yisrael Party as a condition for joining a new coalition government. The new government is expected to be headed by Menachem Begin, leader of the right-wing Likud (Unity) bloc, which won an upset victory in recent national elections.

Dublin (RNS) — The Church of Ireland (Anglican) will ordain women to the priesthood in 1979, according to Archbishop George O. Simms of Armagh (Northern Ireland) and Primate of Ireland. In 1976, the General Synod of the Church of Ireland voted, after a tense debate, in favor of women's ordination.

Washington (BP) — Conflict between children's rights and First Amendment rights flared frequently during two days of hearings on child sexual exploitation here. Witnesses pled for a law to protect children from sexual abuse while legislators weighed the need for federal intervention in the sensitive area. The Subcommittee on Crime of the House Committee on the Judiciary held two days of hearings on child sexual exploitation and abuse. Rep. John Conyers Jr. (D-Mich.) is subcommittee chairman.

Ponce, P. R. (RNS) — Three Sisters of St. Joseph will leave their work in the Ponce diocese because of an order by Roman Catholic Bishop Juan Fremiot Torres-Oliver that requires all nuns to wear a distinctive form of dress or habit. Other members of the order will follow the Feb. 2 directive issued by the bishop. He then told Sisters using secular dress that they must change to habits before August.

Harrisburg, Pa. (RNS) — Pennsylvania State Rep. Ronald P. Goebel (R-Allegheny) is pressing the House Rules Committee for action on a resolution to investigate the religious movement headed by the Rev. Sun Myung Moon, who is leader of the Unification Church.

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Leadership Diplomas Are On Increase

Twenty-two Church Training Leadership Diplomas have been issued to leaders of Mississippi Baptist churches this far this year, according to Kermit S. King, Mississippi Baptist Church Training Department director. This compares to a total of 14 issued for the full 1975-76 church year.

Several pastors, Church Training directors, and associational mission directors are earning more than one diploma in order to become knowledgeable about several areas of work.

Included among those earning diplomas this church year (since October, 1976) are Hugh Poole, Macon; Frank M. Starr, Clarksdale; Walter D.

Gatewood, Laurel; Dan Wynn, Jackson; Kermit S. King, Jackson; David H. Lee, Jr., Pontotoc; Gene A. Hendrix, Clinton; Sarah Golding, Belden; Mr. and Mrs. Athens McNeill, Moss Point; Evelyn George, Jackson; Mr. and Mrs. Tommy D. Taylor, Rankin Association.

Information related to the Church Study Course is available from the Church Training Department office at the Baptist Building in Jackson.

The Church Study Course is one opportunity available to pastors and Church Training Directors for the training of their leaders.



Cooperative Ministries VBS

Community Daily Vacation Bible Schools are being held in Jackson from June 6 - Aug. 12, sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and the National Baptist Convention, Inc. under their joint Home Mission Outreach Program.

Pictured left to right are the workers: Charles Dillon of McComb, student at Jackson State University;

Jackie Howard of Jackson, student at Hinds this fall; Dick Brogan, MBCB staffer in Cooperative Ministries with National Baptists department; Venus Bates of Jackson, student at JSU; Valerie Taylor of Jackson, student at USM; Thomas Darden of Hattiesburg, student at JSU; and Mrs. Hattie Penry, retired employee of the city recreation department, who is coordinating the Bible Schools in 14 churches and in four recreation centers.

Churches where the VBS's will be held are: Bertha Chapel, New Stranger Home, Zion Travelers, Progressive, New Hope, New Jerusalem, Howard Chapel, Rosemont, Virden Grove, Sweet Rock, Pearlie Grove, Free Mission, New Traveler Rest, and Pleasant Hill. Community park sites are: College Park, Grove Park, Jones Center, and Martin Center.

Recreation Seminars Offered In Nashville

In September church recreation leaders may choose from five special-interest seminars which will be held simultaneously at the Sunday School Board's Church Program Training Center in Nashville. The subjects will range from family recreation to programming and operating camps.

The five seminars will be held September 12-16, and include: "The Church and Family Recreation," directed by Don Mattingly; "The Program and Operation of a Church, Association, or State Camp," directed by John LaNoue; "The Program and Operation of a Recreation Facility," directed by Bob Sessoms; "Using Drama in the Church," directed by Everett Robertson; and "The Use of Puppetry in a Church," directed by Everett Robertson. All seminar leaders are consultants or specialists in the Board's Church Recreation Department. The department will sponsor the week-long seminars.

Grady Nutt, Christian entertainer from Louisville, will be the featured guest at the opening night banquet and will assist in the family recreation seminar during the week.

The church's role in planning and implementing family recreation activities will be a major focus of "The Church and Family Recreation." Ways to increase parent-child understanding and family togetherness through recreation will be discussed, along with specific challenges facing the Christian home today.

Drama and puppetry techniques will be highlighted in separate seminars. Both are seen as tools to add variety

and meaning to worship. "Using Drama in the Church" will explore forms of church drama, technical production, costuming and makeup, and ideas for a comprehensive drama ministry. "The Use of Puppetry in a Church" will demonstrate puppet and marionette construction, techniques for writing puppet scripts, and ways to best use a puppet ministry.

Varied programming and smooth operation of a recreation facility are goals of another church recreation seminar. Sessoms will draw attention to such concerns as enlisting volunteer workers, planning programs, determining equipment needs, scheduling events, and working within a budget for a church recreation facility.

"The Program and Operation of Church, Association, or State Camp" is designed for camp managers and camp staff members. Long-range planning will be the major emphasis, and food services and camp finance also will be discussed.

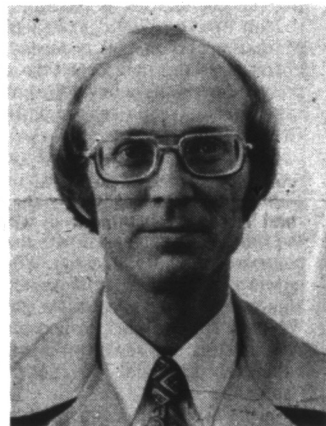
All seminars begin with an evening meal on Monday and conclude before noon on Friday. A registration fee of \$30 covers the Monday night meal and all necessary study materials. Registrants will receive a list of Nashville hotels and motels for making lodging reservations. A list of participants will be available August 15 to help persons plan travel arrangements.

To register, specify seminar preference and mail the \$30 fee to the Church Program Training Center, 127 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville, Tennessee 37234.

Seminary Awards Degrees

Mississippi Baptist Seminary, a joint operation of black and white Baptists in the state, held its 34th graduation exercise on June 3 at Mt. Helm Missionary Baptist Church in Jackson. Sixty-one students received degrees, diplomas and certificates from 11 Center areas.

At that exercise, four men were awarded honorary doctor of divinity degrees by the seminary. They are Samuel L. Brown, pastor of Greater Clark Street Baptist Church in Jackson; James Wilson, pastor of Rising Star Baptist Church in Tupelo; Henry L. Parker, professor and chairman of the Biology Department at Alcorn A. and M. College; and Nathan Walker, Jr., pastor of First Missionary Baptist Church in Pass Christian.



Colorado Editor

James Lee Young, feature editor of Baptist Press, has been named editor of the Rocky Mountain Baptist weekly news publication and public relations director for the Colorado Baptist General Convention, effective July 1. Young, 34, has been with Baptist Press, the Southern Baptist Convention's news service since Oct. 1973. A native of Altus, Okla., Young is a journalism graduate of San Diego (Calif.) State University and Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif. He and his wife, Glenda, have two children.

North Greenville School Against Merger Proposal

GREENVILLE, S.C. (BP) — The North Greenville College trustees have voted to reject the proposal of the South Carolina Baptist Convention Committee of 15 pertaining to the college.

The committee recommendation is that the Baptist junior college be merged administratively with Furman University, a four-year Baptist school in Greenville. The proposal was presented to the North Greenville board for study on May 5.

The board voted its disapproval in a special meeting May 13. Eighteen of the 25 trustees were present.

Neither the committee report nor

the trustee action can be considered as final.

The report will be made to the state Baptist convention in November, where it may be approved, rejected or altered.

If the convention approves the recommendations pertaining to North Greenville it will then be necessary for trustees of the two schools to act.

The relationship between the convention and the colleges allows the trustees to make all decisions pertaining to operation of the latter. The convention exercises its authority through its choice of trustees and through its allocations of financial support.

Troy Mohon Retires From MC

CLINTON — There are few colleges registrars who in a 23-year career could boast of having been in charge of registering over 70% of their institution's graduates, especially if that college is the oldest institution of higher learning in the state.

"But that is just what the records show," said retiring Mississippi College registrar Troy Mohon, as he studied his hand-copied registration records. "Of the approximately 16,450 students who have graduated from MC since 1826, I have been in charge of registering over 11,583 since I began working here."

Mohon, a native of Copiah County and a 1936 graduate of MC has served as registrar since 1954 and retired at the conclusion of this school year. Prior to coming to MC, Mohon served as a coach, teacher and superintendent of schools in Mississippi from 1936 until 1945. He then went to Clarke Memorial College in Newton where he served as academic dean and registrar until 1954.

Mississippi College has gone through numerous changes during Mohon's 23 years, including the leadership of three different presidents. Procedures in the registrar's office have changed too.

"When I first came to MC, the students had to go to the professors' offices and sign up for each class," said Mohon. "We finally decided to move the professors to a central location and chose the library for conducting registration."

"That didn't solve all our problems. The old library only had one door and there was usually quite a traffic jam at the door with students trying to enter and exit at one time."

Mohon said that he hit on the idea of using a loudspeaker during those times to announce when particular classes had closed out for registration.

"There was usually so much confusion that nobody could hear what was going on," said Mohon. "I just set up a



loudspeaker in the building and would announce when classes had been filled."

Registration was soon moved to Nelson Hall and each department was placed in a separate classroom. Students were directed around the building by signs. Since that time registration has moved to the B. C. Rogers student center.

"They will be making another move next year over to the new multi-purpose coliseum," said Mohon. "I won't be here for that change."

According to Mohon, the registration forms have changed drastically in the past 23 years too; from 8 1/2 by 14 mimeographed sheets to present day computer cards.

"The mimeographed sheets required that the student fill out the form by hand which often took quite a while," said Mohon. "Now we use computer printouts which only require students to correct the information that might be wrong on the card."

The progressive expansion of MC — in enrollment, physical plant, faculty and curriculum — have necessitated a continuous effort by the registrar's staff to keep pace.

"When I first came to MC there were only two full-time workers including myself," said Mohon. "The rest of our help came from students working part time."

"We now have six full-time workers in the office and two student helpers."

Mohon points out that without the excellent help he received from assistants, the job would have been much less enjoyable. Mohon cites Addie Mae Stevens, registrar prior to his coming, as being of invaluable assistance in helping him get acquainted with the college.

"I don't think a man could have had better help," said Mohon. "We all had to be creative and flexible to accommodate the changes MC has gone through."

State And Associational Bible Drill Winners And Leaders

Young people in these photographs are representative of the many associational and state winners in the Children's Bible Drill sponsored by the Church Training Department, MBCB. Because of limited space, similar pictures will not be printed in the Record again this year.



The YOUTH from WEST JACKSON STREET CHURCH all rated superior in the State Bible Drill in Oxford. Pictured left to right are Michele Posey, Ranae Nanney, Karen Chunn, Roxanne Nanney, Debbie Cooley, Wendy Davis, and Lisa Little. Ranae, Karen, Debbie and Wendy went to Jackson for Selection Bible Drill Tournament, May 7.



Pictured here are participants from West Jackson Street Church who were all state winners in the CHILDREN'S Bible Drill in Oxford. Front row left to right: Charlie Pound, Rhonda Johnson, Andi Horn, Tina Rea; Second row: David Cayson, Felecia Ball, Tracey Bell, Jennifer Smith, Sherrie Cooley, Norma Glenin, Deborah Roberts, Marilyn Posey, Deana Anthony, Tony Aldredge, Sherrie, Norma, and Tony each received three years awards for Bible drill participation.



Standing left to right: Rhonda Hutto, Kim Mills, David McCarty and Kim Wood from BIG CREEK CHURCH. These are all winners in the Wayne County Associational Children's Bible Drill. Kim was also a winner in State Drill held in Hattiesburg April 29. Mary Bayne is county associational children's leader. M. Franklin McLelland is pastor.



NEW HOPE CHURCH, Ellisville, has presented the above participants with the following Bible Drill awards: Children's Division (front row, left to right) Kay Gable — state winner, Malcolm Rowzee — state winner, Sherri Walters — state winner. Youth Division (back row, left to right) Teresa Robertson — State Superior, Greg Gable — State Superior, Rhonda Freeman — state excellent, Teresa and Rhonda also participated in the state semi-finals in Jackson.



The following of IMMANUEL CHURCH, Greenwood, were state winners at the State Children's Bible Drill held at Calvary Church, Greenville, recently: Suzy Ellis, Stephanie and Todd Watson, and Russell Robertson. Mrs. W. E. McBride, drill leader; and M. C. Johnson, pastor.



Pictured are WEST CORINTH CHURCH State Bible Drill Winners. Front row left to right are: Rozanne Pratt, Doran Bugg, Bonnie Franks, Kevin Cooley, and Houston Weaver. Second row left is Paul Wallace, minister of music and youth; and Mrs. C. L. Putt, Bible drill coach and leader. Bonnie and Kevin are second year winners. This was also the 20th year Putt has had pupils participating in the Bible drill.

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

"Honor Thy Father"

This coming Sunday is Father's Day. Everyone knew this already because of the big ads in the advertising media announcing sales on men's clothing for Father's Day.

The commercial community is trying to change the concept, but through the years there has not been as much interest generated about Father's Day as is true about Mother's Day. The lesser amount of interest in a day set aside to honor fathers is understandable, for the idea is to call attention to the forces and influences that mold the character of the home. Historically, it

has been the mother who has been the one at home molding the characters and influencing the lives of the children more than it has been the fathers.

Inflation and living standards have changed that format, and now many mothers work to meet the higher cost of the things that provide a better standard of living. So more than being just a day to cause increased sales, Father's Day needs to have additional emphasis. Old dad needs to be in there also helping his children to establish values in life and find the right avenue of approach to it.

We have allowed commercialization of all of our special days, but that shouldn't keep us from observing them. The family is a vital part of the American scene, and fathers are a vital part of the family. Not all families have fathers, but they must continue to be involved in as many families as possible, and they need to take their responsibilities very seriously.

America and the world need families, and families need fathers. And fathers are due their day. Let's honor them.

Letters To The Editor

TV Protested

Dear Editor:

I am enclosing the pamphlet "The Coming Wave of Public Blasphemy in Movies & TV" which I think should be given much publicity. Our Christian population should be given an opportunity to voice their disapproval of such filth coming into our country.

I am sure you will do what you can regarding this matter.

Thank you.

Most sincerely,
Mrs. H. G. Hawkins
Socoba, MS 39358

The pamphlet is by W. S. McBirnie of Box 90, Glendale, CA 91209 — Editor.

Anita Supported

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a letter "Anita Defended" clipped from *Clarion Ledger* which is self explanatory. It covers the topic which I am concerned about. I think the preachers have been silent too long on this subject. I think the Southern Baptist Convention should pass a resolution upholding Anita in this fight against this abominable sin.

God said it was an abomination, and I think the Baptist people if no one else should stand behind her.

Name withheld as requested
The letter writer was referring to the referendum on civil rights in Miami in which the employment and housing rights of homosexuals were in question. — Editor

Boycott Halted

Dear Sir:

The National Federation for Decency has announced that it is ending its boycott-letter writing campaign against Campbell Soup. The action followed a public announcement by the company that it is rewriting its TV advertising policy in regards to sponsoring violence and sex on the tube.

John Preston, Vice - President for Marketing at Campbell, conceded that citizen pressure had forced the company to rewrite its policy. "We have to take seriously our responsibility," Preston said.

The NFD began our boycott - letter writing campaign two months ago. The company was listed as the 12th most violent sponsor on television at the time. We are pleased with the announcement by Mr. Preston. We look forward to Campbell's maintaining its high image in the eyes of the public. We think they will act responsibly in this matter. We feel that we have achieved our goal in regard to Campbells.

The NFD will now focus its efforts in promoting the nationwide Turn The

by Don G. Nerren, Pastor
Macedonia Baptist Church,
Brookhaven

My earliest remembrance of my grandfather is in the old coal mining town of Carbon Hill, Al. My grandfather was a railroad man, as was his father before him. However, he was not just any railroad man. He was a Frisco Railroad man, and that made a difference. I suppose the musty smell of trains and the large waiting rooms filled with passengers were all that my grandfather ever really knew. He loved his work and was dedicated to every function of it. His particular position was clerk, and it was his responsibility to keep all the cars straight and the trains moving.

I remember well that on pretty days Grandfather would walk to work. I was allowed to walk with him, but only for one block. I remember standing and watching him walk on down the street alone. I watched until he was completely out of sight. Sometimes in the afternoon I was allowed to go back to the corner to wait for his return.

One day Grandfather took me to work with him. I do not remember much about that day except for the fact that Grandfather got permission for me to ride with the engineer on the switching train. It was my first time to ride in the exciting engine. I have ridden in the cabs of trains a number of times since that day, but never has any ride been as exciting as that first one. I do remember that it was a long day and that I was glad when the time came to walk home.

Grandfather was the biggest and most successful fisherman I have ever known. Some of my most unforgettable moments with my grandfather are those days when we would get up at four o'clock in the morning, hook up the boat, and drive many miles to the Tennessee River to fish. I remember sitting in the back seat of the car, packed among the fishing gear, listening to my grandfather talk about the many fish he hoped to catch that day. I would listen until I fell asleep and would have to be awakened when we arrived at the river. Grandfather always sat in the front part of the boat and let my father run the motor. I shall always believe the fish knew that my grandfather was in the front part of the boat because he always seemed to catch more than anyone else. I have never known a man that loved to fish any more than Grandfather. I remember the time we almost lost him

on one of his many fishing trips. His boat overturned in the middle of the river, and if there had not been a branch growing nearby, he would have drowned. His fishing gear and boat motor are still at the bottom of the Tennessee River.

Grandfather was a man of principles and of the old school. He believed in his country and taught his children to believe in it. All three of his boys served their country in two major wars. He believed that a man should work for his living and that he should be paid for his labor, regardless of his color.

My grandfather was a Christian and led his family to respect and love God and His church. He was a deacon from way back and was always admired for his Christian convictions. One of the men who drove a long distance to attend his funeral was his pastor many years ago in Carbon Hill, Al. Even though Carbon Hill was his first pastorate as a young minister, the impression my grandfather made on him was lasted throughout all these years. He shared with me something I already really knew, that my grandfather was a kind and good, dedicated Christian man. He spoke of the depression years, and related that my grandfather was one of a small group of men responsible for holding the church together during those perilous times.

Most of all I remember my grandfather as a man who believed in me. Many times he put his hand on my shoulder and said, "Don, I know you are going to make a great preacher one day." One of his greatest joys in his latter years was to hear me preach on tape. He was never able to hear me preach in person because of his failing health.

Grandfather is gone now. He was translated to Heaven in June, 1974. He lived a good life and was blessed with a good companion for over 50 years. I did not cry at his funeral, because we had talked many times about that day. He was ready to meet God. However, life will never be the same without him. I shall never see a train without my mind going back to that day in Carbon Hill, Al., when I took my first ride in an engine. I shall never see a boat or a fishing pole without thinking of the time we spent together on the Tennessee River. I shall never preach a sermon without remembering his encouraging words. No, life will never be the same, but Heaven is richer today because Grandfather is there, and my life is richer because of his influence on me.

Television Off Week (TTTOW) July 24-30. The NFD is asking citizens to unplug their sets during TTTOW, call and write their local stations in protest of TV sex and violence, and observe a day of prayer for network programmers and advertisers on July 24.

Donald E. Wildmon
National Federation For Decency
Southaven

I'd suggest the prayers for the local stations rather than the network programmers and the advertisers. It is the local stations that stand to get hurt by such action as turning off the set for a week. Likely, there won't be too many sets turned off. The phone calls and letters will be welcomed by the stations if the callers and writers will mention specifics. — Editor

ments of 1972 the department is going to dictate to the institution how it is going to treat its students and employees. Probably the treatment dictated is right and fair; but if federal money is involved, one can be sure the government is going to establish the criteria for fairness. Title IX involves sex discrimination regulations.

Federal money does not have to be involved, however. Another agency, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, is now wagging its finger at Southwestern Seminary; and our seminaries take no federal money. The commission's fuss is with all of our seminaries. Southwestern volunteered to be the test case in the struggle.

Where these avenues could lead that the federal government is trying to open would make one shudder. The bureaucratic strangle hold is already tight, and the road work is under way.

Whether the movement can be reversed is questionable, but we must make every effort to keep federal

hands off our business while at the same time we maintain the high standards that the bureau would insist that we do.

The Southern Baptist Convention is meeting this week in Kansas City. An issue that might have surfaced during the week is the ordination of women. Whether or not we believe that such is scripturally right could be of little consequence if the tide of federal intrusion is not reversed.

The government simply might tell us to get on with it regardless.

Baptists support two agencies which are trying to protect our interests in church-state separation. They are the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs and Americans United for the Separation of Church and State. Both are headquartered in Washington, and both deserve support.

The path is one of beauty that leads to the use of public money for our private business, but more often than not it leads in a direction we don't want to go.

The Joke Fizzled

Some weeks ago entertainer Rod McKuen asked his colleagues in the entertainment business to poke fun at Anita Bryant, Miss Bryant, a Southern Baptist, was fighting for repeal of an ordinance in Miami, Fla., that specifically established certain rights for homosexuals, including job opportunities and housing.

She was concerned about school teachers being homosexuals.

Tuesday night of last week Johnny Carson delivered another sick joke in his series on Anita Bryant. The election was over, but the show had been

taped before he had heard the results.

Miss Bryant was not laughing but had only a smile of appreciation as she appeared at a news conference in Miami after the people of that city had repealed the gay rights ordinance by an overwhelming vote.

The ironic thing was that the news conference was shown before Carson's taped Tonight Show came on the air.

Let us hope that the stand of the people of Miami will give the rest of the nation the will to stand in the face of assaults on decency and say, "Enough!"

At Conventions

Mississippians Are Among Early Speakers

Mississippians, former Mississippi residents, and Mississippi natives now living elsewhere have been prominent on speakers' platforms during the early days of the Woman's Missionary Union Convention, the Pastors' Conference, and the Southern Baptist Convention at Kansas City.

Frank Pollard, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, addressed the Southern Baptist Convention on Tuesday. John Claypool, pastor of Northminister Baptist Church, Jackson, addressed the WMU Convention on Monday. James L. Sullivan, a native of Mississippi who was SBC president during the past year, delivered the president's address to the SBC on Tuesday. Carolyn Weatherford, a native of House, Miss., now executive

secretary of the Woman's Missionary Union, spoke to the WMU meeting on Monday. William G. Tanner, former pastor of First Baptist Church, Gulfport, and now executive director of the Home Mission Board, spoke at the WMU Convention on Monday.

Excerpts from these and other speeches at the three meetings are presented.

Frank Pollard, SBC

When God would teach a Christian how to minister to the world He loves, He frames His lesson in human personality. Saul of Tarsus one day met Jesus Christ and was remarkably turned around. He has become "Exhibit A" for everyone who has followed the Master ever since. This jubilant little Jew jogged around the world of his day, introducing all he met to Jesus Christ. He was our Lord's first commando, attacking paganism at its source. He had a conviction that though some battles would be lost, the war would be won. He wore scars like medals, proudly calling them "the marks of our Lord Jesus Christ."

As we trace the ministry of Paul we see him confronting kings on thrones and crowds in the street with the same basic testimony: "Look, one day I was walking down a road and something happened. That something was someone. His name is Jesus and He changed my life. Let me tell you what He can do for you."

It is a simple story we have to tell. And it should be told simply, clearly and boldly. So often we say the words but do not communicate the message. Often our church talk does not successfully translate into "people" talk.

James L. Sullivan, SBC

Our denomination is in the era of its greatest strength and testing. For the first time we have the resources, the manpower, the know-how, the national

coverage geographically and the nation's eye. Too, we have the methodology. We have dedicated missionaries committed and in training, or already there. And the Cooperative Program which was a long time being born is now a dynamic instrument for regular sustained, and systematic sharing of our message with the whole world. So are the special mission offerings. It is not only the first time in our individual lifetimes that such a situation holds, but it is the first time in our denomination's lifetime as well. God has brought us to this hour. We still respond either like Jonah who fled frantically from a task so big, or we will brace up and face the crisis as the early disciples did when they had their all at the feet of Jesus to go wherever he would lead and do whatever he would command.

The fields we as Southern Baptists have entered already are many and worthy. Our missionaries are widespread. We have established churches, hospitals, schools, children's homes, homes for the aged and many other worthy endeavors.

A bold mission thrust calls for the 50-50 ideal of budget sharing with each church re-examining its percentage of giving and increasing with regularity until as much is being done for others as for ourselves. Bold Missions cannot be thrust forward by a few churches even if they do sacrifice. The job is too big for the few. Everyone and every church must act in concerted effort.

William L. Self, Atlanta, SBC Annual Sermon

There is a little book that I have enjoyed entitled *Children's Letters to God*. It contains one letter that seems appropriate for this hour. The child said: "Dear God, some of my friends say that you're not real. If you are real, you'd better do something quick. Perhaps this is God's word to us now. If we are real, we'd better get at our task

quickly, for it is to this world we are called to minister. Southern Baptists have been sheltered from the ravages of theological liberalism that, like locusts, has eaten the heart out of other communions. Our fields may have produced the weeds of racism, narrowness, and provincialism, but these are easily plucked out when the crop is healthy. However, if the crop itself is diseased for lack of the gospel, all is lost.

We have never thought that man was perfectible, for we have observed firsthand his ability to cultivate Gardens of Eden and then destroy them. It was man that built the ovens of Dachau, but it was also man that sang and prayed as he entered. To man's search for meaning we bring on unyielding, clear-eyed experience of grace and affirmation. Man's capacity for evil frightens us, but God's capacity for grace encourages us. It is to this ghetto of the soul that we speak, for in his Holy Spirit we have experienced the capacity to change. It is the gospel of God that replenishes the malnourished soul of this land. Our world has lingered too long at the table of secularism. Southern Baptists are still naive enough to believe that God can change men; he can change nations; he can change our world.

William E. Hull, Shreveport

Proof that the gospel is impregnable, a divine dynamic is seen in the fact that it can deliver from destruction. The power that first was present in the person of the Savior (Romans 1:4) continues to be mediated by the preaching of His gospel and thereby becomes effective in the lives of all who accept its claim. The message goes forth as a gale of God's wind blowing in a heavenly direction (John 3:8), a transcendent force propelling man toward salvation, a kind of spiritual "counter-gravity" that lifts him

above every threat of earthbound existence. Although the completion of that safe passage through earthly trials to eternal bliss still lies in the future, the gospel does not merely announce or even anticipate the outcome. Rather, it inaugurates the pilgrimage of salvation and actualizes the experience of its reality here and now, in advance of the end!

W. A. Criswell, Dallas, SBC

That is why this miraculous story is chosen, for it typifies humanity. However marvelously situated, with the presence of God calling out everywhere, with the glory of God seen every day and every night, living in the very sanctuary of the Lord God Almighty, yet impotent, lost, beggarly, and degraded.

The Gospel message is addressed to everybody, even to that impotent beggar. The universality of the address of the Christian message is remarkable. The Bible says, "And the common people heard Him gladly." The power of the Gospel message is addressed to the great throngs of mankind, not to just an elect or select group of any kind or any status, but the Good News is offered to the intellectual, the affluent, the successful, and the leaders as well as to the degraded, uneducated, unwise, poor and beggarly. God somehow looks upon us all alike. He classifies us in just two groups: I either know the Lord in the pardon of my sins or I am lost no matter who I am. The power of the Gospel has always been such in its moving through the masses of the people.

John R. Claypool, WMU

Notice carefully that Jesus did not hesitate to use both word and deed. If there is a certain unreality about the word that is not backed up by the deed, there is also an incompleteness about the deed that is unaccompanied by the word. Years ago when I was in the seminary, the Ohio River flooded and badly damaged a little town just south of Louisville. I remember reading in the paper that after the waters receded, some Amish farmers appeared one day out of nowhere with their tools and asked simply where was some poor widow's home that needed to be repaired. Without a further word, they worked for a solid week, rebuilt the home, and then as quickly as they had appeared, they vanished again. The newspaper was intrigued by these folk who simply responded to human tragedy and were not interested in identifying themselves or getting any

credit for it. It was a beautiful act of human compassion, and yet as I read about it, I felt that a vital link was missing, for the deep Christian love that motivated such helping was not identified. Because I knew something of the Amish philosophy, I realized why they had done this. But for lots of others, the deep source of this sort of compassion remained unknown. What I am saying is that the wordless deed has its limitations just as much as the deedless word. What it needed is what we see taking place in the Christ-event; namely, the Word becomes flesh, the saying and the doing so complementing each other that people both see and hear the truth of God's love. The title assigned to me is thus correct. We must both speak out and reach out if the attention of the world is going to be attracted.

Carolyn Weatherford, WMU

Bold Women On Bold Mission
Bold women always have been on bold mission. The first woman to tell the Good News of Jesus was Anna, an elderly woman who had devoted more than eighty years to God's service in the temple. To women Jesus made his first appearance after his resurrection, and with a new boldness they followed his commission to go and tell his brethren that he had risen. The Marys and the Lydia, the Dorcas and the Phoebe, the Priscillas... these bold women joined the men in the young church to spread Christianity throughout the world.

The history of Southern Baptists is sprinkled with bold women, who, clasping to their hearts strong faith in the Lord moved into the difficult, the unknown, the unpopular events to effect change.

William G. Tanner, WMU

When God set out to rescue the race from the sinful mess into which we had fallen, it was not enough for him to stand on the remote shoreline of heaven's majestic infinity and snatch at us with delicate fingers. He had to wade right into the middle of the middle of our dilemma. There came a time when God had to address himself personally to the very core of our predicament. As the old Scottish Presbyterian Preacher T. Dewitt Talmadge used to say: "At Calvary, God dressed himself in crimson garments and came out to court the love of all mankind. 'Greater love has no man than this, that a man is willing to give his life for his friends.'"

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Names In The News

James K. Byrd of Columbia has been called to the pastorate of Lowrey Memorial Church, Blue Mountain. He and his wife arrived at their new field of service early in April from First Church, Bradenton, FLA, where he had served as Associate Pastor and Minister of Youth. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack T. Byrd of Columbia and is married to the former Joni King of Gulfport. Byrd holds the Bachelor of Arts degree from Miss. College and the Master of Divinity degree from New Orleans Seminary. He was licensed to preach and ordained to the ministry from his home church in Columbia.

David McArthur has resigned to enter the field of full-time music evangelism after serving as minister of music and youth for 2½ years at Bethlehem Church. Before coming to Bethlehem he served several churches in Miss. McArthur received his education at Clarke College and Mobile College. His wife is the former Nancy Holmes of Pearl. He may be contacted at Star Route, Box 92-A; Lacey's Spring, ALA 35754; or by phone at (205) 881-3930 or (205) 881-2659.

The Board of Trustees of Baptist Bible Institute announces the transfer of the presidency from James E. Southerland to Joseph P. DuBose, Jr., effective June 1, 1977. DuBose was pastor of East Hill Church, Pensacola, Florida, prior to becoming president. He received the Bachelor of Divinity degree, the Master of Theology degree, and the Doctor of Ministry degree from Southern Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.

David Jeans has been called as pastor of Darling Church. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dillard Jeans of Jonesboro, Arkansas. He is married to the former Laverne Kawamoto, daughter of Saudo Kawamoto of Waipahu, Hawaii.

Olyn Roberts has been called as pastor of West Marks Church and moved on the field on June 2. He and his wife, Eloise, have one daughter, Debbie, who will be a sophomore at Clarke College this fall.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley D. Stamps, missionaries to Nicaragua, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 208 E. Main St., Clinton, Miss. 39056). He is a native of Prentiss, Miss. She is the former Glenna Morgan of Hill County, Tex. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1962, he was superintendent of missions for the Mississippi Baptist Association, Liberty.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold R. Watson, missionaries to the Philippines, have arrived in the States on furlough (address: c/o Broadmoor Baptist Church, 715 E. Northside Ave., Jackson, Miss. 39206). He is a native of Brooklyn, Miss. The former Joyce Daniel of Texas, she was born in Dallas and lived in nearby Irving and New Boston while growing up. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1964, he taught vocational agriculture in a Hattiesburg, Miss., high school.

Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Buckley, missionaries to Bangladesh, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: c/o James McKinley, Box 99, Ramna, Dacca 2, Bangladesh). He is a native of Picayune, Miss. The former Frances Goyne, she was born in Gibson, Miss., but spent much of her childhood in Maringouin, La. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1967, he was pastor of Renner (Tex.) Baptist Church.

Mr. and Mrs. James E. McAtee, missionaries to Indonesia, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Box 1, Kediri, Indonesia). They are natives of Jackson, Miss. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1971, they were living in Hayward, Calif., where he was pastor of Hampton Road Baptist Church.

James Spencer started his first Sunday as pastor of Sherman Church on May 29. He came from his seven-year-old position as the Chairman of Social Science Division at Clarke College. Reared at Potts Camp, Spencer is a native of Itawamba County and is married to the former Kathryn Taylor of Andalusia, ALA. Mrs. Spencer holds an Assoc. of Arts degree from Clarke College. Spencer did his graduate work at USM and Carey, and is now attending New Orleans Seminary. He has held numerous pastorates in Miss.

Ivor L. Clark has accepted the pastorate of Salem Church, Collins. He is a graduate of Mississippi College, Southwestern Seminary and the Air Force Chaplain's School, Carlisle, Pa. He has served pastorates in La., Okla., Texas, and Mississippi, and comes to Salem from Elton Church, Macon. He is presently serving as State Chaplain with the American Legion of Ms. and is also National Field Representative of Patriotic American Youth. He was selected to appear in the 76-77 Bicentennial Memorial Edition of "personalities of the South." His wife, Audine, is a graduate of Southwestern Seminary.

Jimmy Lawrence, Jr. recently accepted a call of First Church, Biloxi to become their Minister of Education. He, his wife, and two children will be moving to Biloxi on June 17 from First Church, Tampa, Florida where he has served since 1973. He has previously served on staffs at First Church in Memphis, Tennessee, First Church of Arcadia, Louisiana, and Briarwood Church in Jackson. He is a native of Luberton and a graduate of USM and New Orleans Seminary.



JUPITER CHURCH, D'LO had groundbreaking day for pastorial on May 22 homecoming day. The congregation gathered at the north side of the church for prayer by W. C. Hallmark (far left), former pastor, now pastor at Ethel, LA. Hallmark was speaker for the morning service and Paul Roberts, also a former pastor, was speaker at the afternoon service. R. G. Stewart (far right) is pastor, and Joe Welch (banner center) is chairman of the deacons.



The FIRST CHURCH OF CRYSTAL SPRINGS had groundbreaking for a new pastorial on Sunday, May 22. There was dinner on the ground after the morning service followed by the official groundbreaking. There will be a "Prophet's Room" included for visiting preachers, singers, missionaries, etc. The Prophet's Room is to be located across the carport from the rest of the pastorial but under the same roof. A portion of the large lot was given by Mr. and Mrs. F. A. McCoy, Jr., in memory of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Biggs, Jr., parents of Mrs. McCoy. Pictured above are those who had part in the groundbreaking ceremony, including the chairman of each of the pastorial building committees. From left to right: Dan Breland, Jerry Jackson, Joe Waggoner, Eugene Roberts, Estus Mason, Mary Dell McCoy, Jimmy Porter, Mrs. F. A. McCoy, Jr., John Carr, F. A. McCoy, Jr., James Beasley, Adren McCoy, John Robert Lang, Ray Grillot, Jerrell Black.

The patients in my doctor's waiting room were discussing their ailments, pitying themselves and feeling worse by the minute. We scarcely noticed the little old lady in the wine chair until someone asked about her illness. She then named an incurable disease. Complete silence fell on the room. Our own troubles suddenly seemed trivial, and when the little old lady went into the doctor's office, we admitted our health was pretty good. When my turn came, I poured out the story of the changed atmosphere in his waiting room. The doctor smiled, "Mother loves to sit out there and pull her little white lies," he said. "Sometimes I wonder if her treatment doesn't help my patients more than my own."

—Van Winkle Midweek Reminder

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Mrs. C. S. Thomas Dies At Aberdeen

Mrs. C. S. Thomas, 86, of Aberdeen, died on May 10, at Aberdeen. Her husband, C. S. Thomas, held many pastorates in Mississippi and was well known throughout the Southern states. She was a member of First Church, Aberdeen, and for several years was teacher of the Berean Sunday School Class. Throughout her life, she was an active worker in all the organizations of the church. She is survived by a daughter, Mrs. L. T. (Evelyn) Ughetto of Franklin, Mass.; a sister, Mrs. Sadie Crosby of Aberdeen; six brothers, Lee, Albert, Henry, Bodine, all of Fulton, and Shelle of Meridian; one grandson, Michael Ughetto of Franklin, Mass. Her daughter, Evelyn, would be happy to hear from any of her old friends at 422 Paula Lane, Franklin, MA 02039.

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New Scholarship Established At MC

CLINTON — William Palmer Manning, counselor at Forest Hill High School, has established a memorial scholarship fund at Mississippi College in honor of his parents.

The Charles Alexander and Carrye Palmer Manning Memorial Scholarship Fund will provide one scholarship annually to a MC junior or senior student preparing for service in the Christian ministry as a pastor and demonstrating a financial need.

Miss. Grads At Mid-America

Mid-America Theological Seminary held its sixth graduation exercise on May 17. President B. Gray Allison presided as an estimated 600 people gathered in the newly acquired auditorium at 1255 Poplar, Memphis, Tennessee. Special music was presented by Bob Pitman, and the baccalaureate address was given by Tommy Hinson, pastor of First Church, West Memphis, Arkansas.

The following received the Diploma of Christian Theology: Shelly Adams, pastor, Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Hernando, Mississippi; Hollis Alderman, pastor, Coila Baptist Church, Coila, Mississippi; James H. Hall, pastor, Second Baptist Church, Tupelo, Mississippi.

Receiving the Master of Theology degrees were the following: Roland Smith; Benny Thompson, pastor, Peach Creek Baptist Church, Panola County, Mississippi.

A reception was held in the fellowship hall after the commencement exercises.



VAN WINKLE'S-FIRST SPORTS AWARD BANQUET was held recently in the Jackson church's new Family Life Center. The banquet program, held in the gymnasium, was planned on the order of a football game. During the first quarter, Larry Joe Herndon, activities director, welcomed the guests. In the second quarter, guests ate their meal. At half time, Connie Rice and Debbie Anderson presented special music. In third quarter, awards were presented. In fourth quarter a special plaque was presented to H. A. Milner, pastor, for whom the building is named. All-Sports Awards were given to: Jay Cummins, high school boys; Carol Ann Heiden, high school girls; Todd Driver, elementary boys; Gayla King, elementary girls; Rita Eason, junior high girls; and Randy Canoy, junior high boys.

Correction

In the article "State Speakers' Tourney" on page 2 of the June 2 issue, participant No. 2, June Winstead, was said to be from Coldwater Church in Winston Association. She is from Coldwater Church in Neshoba Association.

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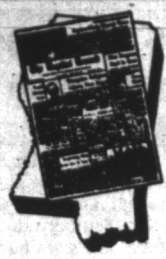
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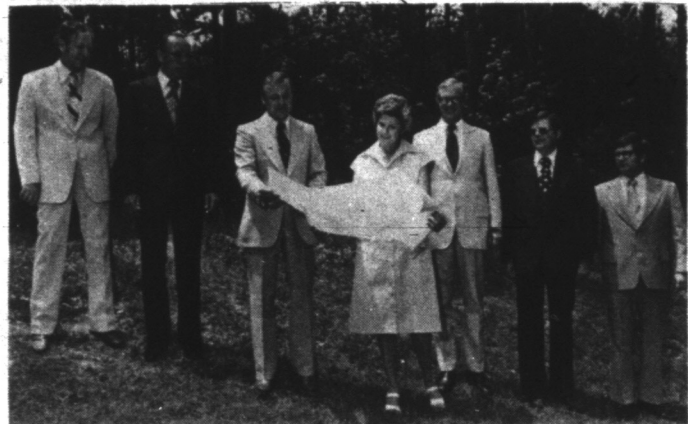
There is a new BSU ensemble at Jones County Jr. College in Ellisville. The group is known as **CHERITH**. The musical group is under the direction of Pat Tidmore, minister of music at Magnolia Street Church, and has performed in surrounding high schools and various churches. They are to present a selection of songs from "Friend of the Father" by Ron Harris.

Bethel Church, Monticello will celebrate its 125th anniversary June 19. The church was organized June 19, 1852. The church is having a book printed for this special occasion: Bethel Baptist Church 1852-1977. In the book will be many pictures including one of Bethel's first pastor, along with a history of the church's first 125 years. Kenneth A. Marler is pastor. The birthday celebration committee is composed of Katherine Powell, Bertha Pilgreen, H. E. Reid, and Don Fava.

Homecoming and the beginning of the summer revival has been scheduled for June 19 at First Church, State Line. This has also been designated as Building Fund Day for the church. Guest evangelist will be Bill Renick from Biloxi. Music evangelist will be Hixon Helton of Quitman. Weekday services 7:30 a.m. and p.m. Sunday services 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Lunch will be served following the morning worship service on Sunday. A nursery will be provided for the evening services. Robert Cooper is pastor.



On May 15, NEW HOPE CHURCH, ELLISVILLE, ordained two new men as deacons. Pictured above are those participating in the service (left to right) Larry Laird, pastor of Ebenezer Church, Newton, read the scripture; Earl Clark, pastor, brought the charge to the deacons; Maurice Flowers, Associational Missionary for Jones County, brought the charge to the church; Harold Rowzee and David Williamson, newly ordained deacons.



FIRST CHURCH, HAZLEHURST is to build a new parsonage. Pictured on the beautiful building site on Westover Drive are: James R. Stingily, Chairman of Long Range Planning Committee which first initiated plans for parsonage. Willie Smith, Chairman of Deacons at the time the Pastorial Building Committee was appointed. Julianne Yates and Mrs. Peter B. Perkins, members of Pastorial Building Committee. Peter B. Perkins, present Chairman of Deacons. George E. Meadows, Pastor. Gene Martin, member of Pastorial Building Committee. Construction will begin in the near future.



A father leads his children across the desert of life until his offspring are able to find their own way. Then it is their turn to do the leading. — Religious News Service Photo

FATHER'S DAY JUNE 19

The busy time of summer, probably not actually much busier than the winter, but seeming so because it is so erratically scheduled for most families, is here again. There are surely added stresses because of this, and it takes an added portion of every grace on the part of every family member to achieve a good summer. At least it always has at our house. And we've always been a fairly average house.

Our church activities play an important part in summer, and our boys found many happy hours in those activities — fun things, missions things, music things, study things, all called by various names to attract attention and interest, but all having the purpose of helping carry out the Great Commission in the lives of young folks and equip them for their part in the same goal as adults. While some parents complained that the church expected too much of our youngsters and kept them too busy, I was grateful for all our church did for them and expected of them. All of their lives they will be reminded of how they felt and what they did during those times.

What I'm trying to say, I suppose, is that when you are planning your summer, be sure to include all those good things your church has planned for your family. Be joyful in them and benefit from them personally, but be even more mindful of the long-range good they will do, for you, for your children, for your church, and for the Lord's work through the years.

This just might be the summer during which you find an added dimension to your service to the Lord. I have a strong desire to add some dimension to my relationship to Him, don't you? To add something else He needs done, to have an added sense of worth to Him.

Some might say, Why try this in the busy time of summer? Because I find that the busier I am, the more I can attempt and complete. Probably because I depend on the Lord for help more under those circumstances.

At any rate, while we're panting through the summer — from the heat and from the pace — let's be sure to keep in mind that God breathed into us the breath of life, and that breathing easy gets just as much air into our bodies as panting, gasping, and heaving.

Something about being still, and knowing, I believe it is.

The Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission produces 12 radio programs regularly in Spanish, Portuguese, Navajo, Polish, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Hungarian, and Estonian.

Devotional

The Cross As Sacrifice

By Eugene H. Hobbs, First, Philadelphia
Hebrews 10:12

The writer of Hebrews has just been arguing that all Jewish sacrifice, which he regarded as being of divine appointment, was inadequate, and derived its whole importance from being a prophetic shadow of the perfect sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

THE SACRIFICE OFFERED BY CHRIST. Let it first be said that this was a willing sacrifice born of the love of God in Christ for every man. Jesus accepted His mission as the provider of the abundant life and He understood that this involved the sacrifice of His life on a cross. This is not to indicate that His sacrifice was without agony, suffering and shame. The hymn writer has correctly said, "But none of the ransomed ever knew how deep the waters crossed; nor how dark was the night that the Lord passed thru ere He found His sheep that was lost." His sacrifice was also infinitely effective. The Aaronic type was perfectly fulfilled by His offering of Himself. His sacrifice would never need to be repeated as were the Aaronic sacrifices. He "offered one sacrifice for sins forever." It was one sacrifice for all sins forever. Until the Lord Jesus comes again, sinful humanity will continue to be cleansed and redeemed by this one sacrifice made by Christ. There is need for no other.

THE EXALTATION RECEIVED BY CHRIST. The writer tells us that Christ, having finished the work given Him of the Father, sat down on the right-hand of God. He returned to that place of power, honor, and glory that had been His before His incarnation. What a home going that must have been. Paul tells us that God gave "him a name which is above every name" and that He shall be recognized and confessed as Lord by all of creation.

The cross is sacrifice. Jesus said, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me" (Luke 9:23). May we heed His call.



On May 22, Dear Creek Church dedicated its sanctuary with James A. Autry, a former pastor, bringing the message. The church started 14 years ago with prayer meetings in homes and then later held services in their Community Center. Many of the charter members are still in the church. They are Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Bobo, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Bobo, Mrs. Sue Garcia, Dudley Johnson, and pictured, Mr. and Mrs. J. Wesley Miller and Mrs. Ira Kirby. Past pastors have been the late R. B. Patterson, Sr., C. A. Johnson, Reuben Compere, James A. Autry, and Ward B. Byers, Jr. Mickey Reynolds has now been the church's pastor for four months. He and his wife Judy are also pictured.

Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work For June 19

The Inspired Scriptures

By Bill Duncan, Long Beach, First

II Timothy 2:14-19; 3:10-17

John Wainmaker was called the world's merchant prince. He began his career as an errand boy at \$1.25 a week. He became one of the largest purchasers of merchandise the world has ever known. When someone asked him what he considered his greatest purchase he replied, "I have made large purchases of property, this building we are now meeting in cost 20 billion. But it was as a boy in the country, at eleven years of age, that I made my biggest purchase. In a little Lutheran mission Sunday School, I bought from my teacher a small red leather Bible about eight inches long and six inches wide. The Bible cost me \$2.75 — which I paid in small installments as I saved up my own money which I had earned." If more people really read the Bible, they, too, would have some great testimonies to make as to its worth to the individual life.

Someone wrote this and others have copied it and put it in their Bible: "The book contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decision are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy."

Where did the Bible come from? The Baptist Faith and Message says that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is the record of God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction, etc." God speaks to us through the Bible. In it is the mind of God, the way of salvation and the revealed plan of God for man for time and eternity.

The origin of the Bible has been discussed in terms of inspiration. They have been debates about whether the Bible was inspired by dictation (God spoke every word and ignored the writer's mind), by plenary verbal method (God inspired the words but worked through the writer's mind), or dynamically (God inspired the ideas but not the words). I affirm the inspiration of the Bible as a fact but have difficulty explaining everything satisfactorily. The Bible was divine in its initiation.

The authority of the Bible is based upon the truth recorded. The author-

ity of the Bible is the right of the Bible to be believed because it tells the truth. There is no greater evidence of the Bible's inspiration than its message. The various books were gathered together and they tell one complete story. The revealed truth of the Bible is beyond comparison.

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Paul urged Timothy to make every effort to be a good example of what a spiritual teacher ought to be. Diligence and integrity are essential to the proper exposition of Scripture. God's Word must be handled responsibly to avoid dangerous misinterpretation.

We live in an age of loose thinking, lax living and top-sided teaching. Because of this the Christians need to be well informed of the teachings of the Bible and committed to its truth.

Paul urges Timothy to "continue

thou in the things which thou hast learned." The assurance that the truth was real was the results he had seen in others lives. Timothy and all Christians are to prove themselves faithful scholars, not only by learning the things but by living in them.

The Bible has many functions to perform, but first and foremost to make plain to sinful men the way of salvation. When the Book has brought us to salvation, it does not then desert us and leave us to our own way, it takes the believer in hand and guides all his steps from start to finish. The doctrines of the Bible show a Christian how to go on and grow in the Christian faith. The Bible will point out the wrong steps and how to correct the error of our ways. The Bible will make the believer perfect (fitted out for a voyage). He will sail with His all-supplies of the Scriptures. The believer can be fully stocked for all eventualities of life and service.

Sunday School Lesson: International For June 19

The Lord's Request: Let My People Go

By William J. Falls
Exodus 5:1; 11-13

One student of Negro slave songs says that the spiritual with the refrain "Let my people go!" was being sung as early as 1795. It was more than some verses about the children of Israel "in Egypt's land"; it was the plaintive yearning of black slaves for some deliverer. They camouflaged their deep feelings



as they identified with the slaves in the Bible. They gloried in Moses' courage and rejoiced in the victory over Pharaoh. Perhaps only those who have been enslaved or oppressed can appreciate the meaning of freedom. But a lesson like this can reveal the stubborn resistance of the slaveholder as well as God's purpose to give freedom.

The Lesson Explained
An Ultimatum To Pharaoh
(Ex. 11:1-4)

Despite the reluctance of Moses in accepting the commission from God, he did leave Jethro, and he met Aaron

in the wilderness before reaching Egypt. Then they reported to "all the elders of the children of Israel" (4:29) what the Lord had said to Moses. Immediately in 5:1 the two of them presented to Pharaoh the Lord's request: "Let my people go." The Egyptian response was to make greater demands of his Israelite slaves, and Moses was discouraged. Then began the drama of the plagues — nine of them — to prove the Lord's control of creation and superiority over Pharaoh, a god to the Egyptians.

One after another, the plagues made life miserable for the oppressors. Pharaoh would beg for relief, but when it came, he would refuse again to let the Israelites go. At last Pharaoh threatened Moses with death if he returned to the palace. Then the Lord told Moses there would be one more plague — throughout Egypt the firstborn of man and beast would die in one night, from the palace to the hut. Such a catastrophe would cause Pharaoh not only to let the people go but force them to leave. When Moses told the king what was coming, he still would not relent.

A Meal To Remember
(Ex. 12:1-7)
Here is the historical setting for the

great feast of the Jews, the Passover. On the night when the firstborn of the Egyptians would die, the Israelites were to eat their last meal in slavery. Each family would kill a lamb and use its blood to mark the doorposts and lintel of the house so that death would not enter it. Then the whole animal would be roasted, and the family would eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. But notice how they should eat: "you shall have your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand, and you must eat in urgent haste" (12:11, NEB). They probably expected to leave by daybreak.

This Passover meal was to be observed forever. Moses said, so generations yet to come could be told how the Lord delivered Israel from Egypt.

A Trek To Freedom
(Ex. 12:17-27)
As the Lord had said, Pharaoh did urge the Israelites to leave (12:30-33). As they stretched out from the city of Raamses toward Succoth, about thirty miles to the south, the Lord led them away from the shortest route to Canaan because they were not ready to fight the Philistines. Then they turned eastward and approached the Sea of Reeds (meaning of the Hebrew

words). Carrying the bones of Joseph was a sign that his promise had been fulfilled — that God would demonstrate his care for them. Joseph was on his way back home. The multitude of former slaves was on its way into the unknown, seeking a place where Moses said they were to worship Yahweh on their way to a new home in Canaan. By day the Lord led them with a towering cloud, and at night his presence was known in a pillar of fire "to give them light." The Lord was always with them.

Revival Dates

Oakland Church, Corinth: Wednesday June 22 through Sunday June 26; Bill Stafford, evangelist; Tommy Vinson, pastor.

Peachtree Church, (Hinds) June 19-24; Sunday service at regular time; Monday-Friday services at 7:30 p.m.; Russell Jamieson, Centerville, LA, evangelist; Ed Perkins, singer; Mike Everett, pastor.

Rehobeth Church, Pelahatchie: July 17-22; services 7:30 nightly; S. W. Valentine, evangelist; James Netherland, singer.

"WHEN IS A BOY A MAN?"

By Dr. Richard Brannon

Dear Jim,
People get funny ideas about what a man is. Some think that a man is a creature who wears breeches, talks and drinks big, cusses, chews tobacco, looks tough and will take any dare offered. Having this view, many boys try to be a man by doing these things.

Well, Jim, it's not this which makes a man. I know some men who do these things as a cover up for their immaturity.

"When is a boy a man?" Is this your question? Let me try to tell you.

A boy is a man when he can control his emotions. Pouting, temper tantrums, and demands for recognition are childish ways of behaving. No person is grown who can't steer his emotional powers in creative channels.

A boy is a man when he can earn a living, then live within his income. This means that he's big enough to have money without spending it. He can wait for some things.

Furthermore, a man can do things he doesn't especially like to do. Making himself study, or doing a job which he may not enjoy, are marks of maturity.

A boy is a man when he can listen and think before he speaks or acts. Childish people go off half-cocked. They jump to conclusions, usually wrong ones.

Manhood isn't reached until a person can accept abuse from others without hitting back. Jim, this is the hardest. More people have failed to grow up in this respect than in any other way.

A boy is a man when he can admit that he was wrong and change direction. Never confuse determination with stubbornness. Flexibility is seldom found in a pompous person. Strutting and stubborn actions are childish.

A person hasn't reached maturity who fails to keep his commitments. Living up to our engagements is a small matter which makes a person big. Making promises is fine. Life is built on it. After the promise, follow through!

A boy is a man when he can have responsibility without throwing his weight around. A bully isn't a man. He may be a child with a big body.

A boy is a man when he can make unpopular decisions. Taking the road of least resistance is the way of children. A man makes hard decisions based on principle, not applause.

And, Jim, it's Christ you know who makes the difference and He can give you a strength of manliness that you couldn't have in any other way.

Love,
Father



LOUISVILLE, Ky.—Six Mississippi students are among nearly 300 students who received degrees June 3 at Southern Seminary.

Julian Cave, Jr., pastor of St. John's Church, Charlotte, N. C., and current national alumni president for Southern Seminary, delivered the commencement address, and seminary president Duke K. McCall presented degrees to graduates of the schools of theology, religious education, and church music.

Combined with more than 150 students who received degrees in December, the total graduating class for this academic year at Southern Seminary totaled almost 450 students, the largest in the school's 118-year history.

Graduates from this state include: MASTER OF DIVINITY: Barry Don Dennis (Laurel), a graduate of Louisiana College; Bonnie G. Hicks (Oxford), University of Mississippi; William David Patterson (Sumrall), University of Southern Mississippi.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY: David Lynn Hicks (Waynesboro), a graduate of University of Mississippi and Southern Seminary.

MASTER OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: David Wayne Cook (Tupelo), a graduate of William Carey College; Tricy Sellers (Greenville), Mississippi College.